



PATENT

**Attorney Docket No.: 2081CON2CIPCON(203-2400CON2CIPCON)  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Buysse et al.

Examiner: Roy D. Gibson

Serial No.: 10/736,180

Group Art Unit: 3739

Filed: December 15, 2003

Dated: March 13, 2006

For: BIPOLAR ELECTROSURGICAL INSTRUMENT  
FOR SEALING VESSELS

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. It is respectfully submitted that copies of the references listed on page 1 is not required since this application was filed after June 30, 2003 pursuant to 51 C.F.R. 1.98. Copies of foreign references and publications listed on pages 2-3 of form PTO-1449 are enclosed.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 13, 2006.

Dated: March 13, 2006

  
Edward C. Meagher

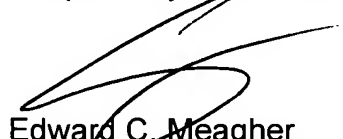
The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application.
- ☐ To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2).
- ☐ Enclosed by check is the petition fee of \$130.00. (37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1))
- ☐ Please charge the \$130.00 petition fee to Deposit Account No. **21-0550**.
- ☐ Enclosed by check is the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).
- ☒ Please charge the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. **21-0550**.

[X] Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account **21-0550**. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. **21-0550** therefor.

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward C. Meagher  
Reg. No. 41,189  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

***Carter, DeLuca, Farrell & Schmidt, LLP***

445 Broad Hollow Road  
Suite 225  
Melville, New York 11747  
Tel.: (631) 501-5700  
Fax: (631) 501-3526

ECM/gm



without references

Sheet

1 of

3

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number (Optional) 2081CON2CIPCON(203-2400CON2CIPCON)	Application Number 10/736,180
	Applicant Buysse et al.	
	Filing Date December 15, 2003	Group Art Number 3739

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	4,416,276	11/22/83	NEWTON ET AL.			
	5,190,541	3/2/93	ABELE ET AL.			
	5,480,409	1/2/96	RIZA			
	5,496,347	3/5/96	HASHIGUCHI ET AL.			
	5,562,699	10/8/96	HEIMBERGER ET AL.			
	5,573,534	11/12/96	STONE			
	5,681,282	10/28/97	EGGERS ET AL.			
	5,810,877	9/22/98	ROTH ET AL.			
	5,893,877	4/13/99	GAMPP, JR. ET AL.			
	6,117,158	9/12/00	MEASAMER ET AL.			
	6,270,497	8/7/01	SEKINO ET AL.			
	6,402,747	6/11/02	LINDEMANN ET AL.			
	6,685,724	2/3/04	HALUCK			
	6,733,498	5/11/04	PATON ET AL.			
	6,926,716	8/9/05	BAKER ET AL.			
	6,929,644	8/16/05	TRUCKAI ET AL.			
	US2002/0107517 A1	8/8/02	WITT ET AL.			
	US2003/0078578 A1	4/24/03	Truckai Csaba et al.			
	US2003/0139741 A1	7/24/03	GOBLE ET AL.			
	US2005/0101951 A1	5/12/05	WHAM ET AL.			
	US2005/0113818 A1	5/26/05	SARTOR ET AL.			

Examiner

Date Considered

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Form PTO-1449  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)				Docket Number (Optional) 2081CON2CIPCON(203-2400CON2CIPCON)		Application Number 10/736,180		
				Applicant Buysse et al.				
				Filing Date December 15, 2003		Group Art Number 3739		
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
		JP501068	9/1984	Japan				
		JP502328	3/17/92	Japan				
		JP5-40112	2/19/93	Japan				
		JP2001128990A2	5/15/01	Japan				
		JP2001029356A2	2/6/01	Japan				
		JP2001008944A2	1/16/01	Japan				
		JP2000350732A2	12/19/00	Japan				
		JP2000342599A2	12/12/00	Japan				
		JP11244298A2	9/14/99	Japan				
		JP09010223A2	1/14/97	Japan				
		JP08252263A2	10/1/96	Japan				
		JP08056955A2	3/5/96	Japan				
		JP07265328A2	10/17/95	Japan				
		JP06343644A2	12/20/94	Japan				
		SU 401367	11/28/74	Russia				
		DE 19608716	4/17/97	DE				
		DE 29616210	1/2/97	DE				
		DE 19751108	5/20/99	DE				
		DE 2415263	10/2/75	DE				
		WO 00/24331	5/4/00	PCT				
		WO 02/07627	1/31/02	PCT				
		WO 02/080783	10/17/02	PCT				
		WO 02/080784	10/17/02	PCT				
		WO 02/080785	10/17/02	PCT				
		WO 02/080786	10/17/02	PCT				
		WO 02/080793	10/17/02	PCT				
		WO 02/080794	10/17/02	PCT				
		WO 02/080797	10/17/02	PCT				
		WO 02/081170	10/17/02	PCT				
		WO 04/032777	4/22/04	PCT				
		WO 04/073490	9/2/04	PCT				
		WO 04/103156	12/2/04	PCT				
		WO 95/07662	3/23/95	PCT				
		WO 97/10764	3/27/97	PCT				
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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant Buysse et al.	
		Filing Date December 15, 2003	Group Art Number 3739
		"Innovations in Electrosurgery"	
		Sales/Product Literature; December 31, 2000	
		LigaSure Vessel Sealing System, the Seal of Confidence in General, Gynecologic, Urologic, and Laparoscopic Surgery	
		Sales/Product Literature; January, 2004	
		Olsson et al. "Radical Cystectomy in Females"	
		Current Surgical Techniques in Urology, Vol. 14, Issue 3, 2001	
		Dulemba et al. "Use of a Bipolar Electrothermal Vessel Sealer in Laparoscopically Assisted Vaginal Hysterectomy"	
		Sales Product Literature; January, 2004	
		Johnson et al. "Evaluation of a Bipolar electrothermal Vessel Sealing Device in Hemorrhoidectomy"	
		Sales Product Literature; January, 2004	
		International Search Report PCT/US01/11224	
		dated November 13, 2001	
		International Search Report EP 98958575.7	
		dated September 20, 2002	
		International Search Report EP 04013772	
		dated April 1, 2005	
		International Search Report EP 05013895	
		dated October 14, 2005	
		International Search Report EP 05017281	
		dated November 16, 2005	
Examiner		Date Considered	
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or nor citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.			